

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. An apparatus, comprising:

one or more server components that employ one or more identifiers of one or
5 more communication devices to make a determination of one or more internet protocol
addresses of one or more router components, wherein the one or more identifiers
comprise any one or more of:

a phone number for one or more users associated with the one or more
communication devices;

10 an email address for the one or more users associated with the one or more
communication devices;

an instant message name for the one or more users associated with the one
or more communication devices; and

15 a user name for the one or more users associated with the one or more
communication devices.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the one or more server components
employ the one or more identifiers to search one or more databases to make the
determination of the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router
components.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein one or more of the one or more internet protocol addresses of one or more of the one or more router components comprise one or more dynamic internet protocol address of the one or more of the one or more router components;

5 wherein one or more of the one or more server components search one or more of the one or more databases to make a determination of the one or more dynamic internet protocol addresses of the one or more of the one or more router components.

4. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein one or more of the one or more internet protocol addresses of one or more of the one or more router components comprise one or
10 more static internet protocol address of the one or more of the one or more router components;

wherein one or more of the one or more server components search one or more of the one or more databases to make a determination of the one or more static internet protocol addresses of the one or more of the one or more router components.

15 5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein upon the determination by the one or more server components of the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components, one or more of the one or more server components communicate one or more messages or calls through the internet to the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components.

6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein one or more of the one or more messages or calls comprise one or more video messages;

wherein upon the determination by the one or more server components of the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components, the one or more of the one or more server components communicate the one or more video messages through the internet to one or more of the one or more internet protocol address of one or more of the one or more router components.

7. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the one or more of the one or more server components comprise one or more first server components, the apparatus in combination with:

one or more second server components that employ the one or more identifiers of the one or more communication devices to direct the one or more messages or calls through the one or more router components to the one or more communication devices.

8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein one or more of the one or more second server components employ one or more screening preferences of one or more of the one or more users associated with one or more of the one or more communication devices to direct one or more of the one or more messages or calls to the one or more of the one or more communication devices.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the one or more screening preferences are stored in one or more databases, wherein the one or more of the one or more second server components employ the one or more of the one or more messages or calls to perform a search of the one or more screening preferences, wherein the one or more of
5 the one or more second server components employ one or more results of the search to direct the one or more of the one or more messages to the one or more of the one or more communication devices.

10. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein one or more of the one or more router components are coupled with a landline telephone network;

10 wherein one or more of the one or more second server components direct one or more landline telephone calls from the landline telephone network through one or more of the one or more router components to one or more of the one or more communication devices.

11. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein one or more of the one or more router
15 components are coupled with a mobile network;

wherein one or more of the one or more second server components direct one or more mobile phone calls from the mobile network through one or more of the one or more router components to one or more of the one or more communication devices.

12. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the one or more of the one or more communication devices comprise one or more smart appliances with one or more functions;

wherein one or more of the one or more second server components direct one or more of the one or more messages or calls through one or more of the one or more router components to trigger one or more of the one or more functions of the one or more smart appliances.

13. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

one or more mobile communication devices;

10 wherein upon the determination by the one or more server components of the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components, the one or more mobile communication devices employ an H.323 protocol to communicate one or more messages or calls through the internet to one or more of the one or more internet protocol address of one or more of the one or more router components.

14. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the one or more of the one or more server components comprise one or more first server components;

wherein the one or more first server components employ the one or more identifiers to search one or more databases to make the determination of the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components;

wherein upon the determination by the one or more first server components of the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components, one or more of the one or more first server components communicate one or more messages or calls through the internet to the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components;

the apparatus further comprising:

one or more second server components;

wherein upon receipt of the one or more messages or calls at the one or more router components, the one or more second server components employ the one or more identifiers of the one or more communication devices to direct the one or more messages or calls through the one or more router components to the one or more communication devices.

15. A method, comprising the steps of:

searching one or more databases with one or more identifiers of one or more communication devices to make a determination of one or more internet protocol addresses of one or more router components; and

5 sending one or more messages or calls to the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components for direction to the one or more communication devices.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein one or more of the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components comprise one or more dynamic
10 internet protocol addresses of one or more of the one or more router components, wherein the step of searching the one or more databases with the one or more identifiers of the one or more communication devices to make the determination of the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components comprises the steps of:

searching one or more of the one or more databases make the determination of
15 the one or more dynamic internet protocol addresses of the one or more of the one or more router components; and

sending one or more of the one or more messages or calls through the internet to the one or more dynamic internet protocol addresses of the one or more of the one or more router components.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein one or more of the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components comprise one or more static internet protocol addresses of one or more of the one or more router components, wherein the step of searching the one or more databases with the one or more identifiers of the one or more communication devices to make the determination of the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components comprises the steps of:

searching one or more of the one or more databases to make the determination of the one or more static internet protocol addresses of the one or more of the one or more router components; and

10 sending one or more of the one or more messages or calls through the internet to the one or more static internet protocol addresses of the one or more of the one or more router components.

18. The method of claim 15, wherein the one or more communication devices comprise one or more smart appliances, wherein the step of sending the one or more messages or calls to the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components for direction to the one or more communication devices comprises the step of:

triggering one or more functions of the one or more smart appliances through direction of one or more of the one or more messages or calls through one or more of the one or more router components.

19. The method of claim 15, wherein the one or more databases comprise one or more first databases, wherein the step of sending the one or more messages or calls to the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components for direction to the one or more communication devices comprises the steps of:

5 searching one or more second databases to direct one or more of the one or more messages or calls to one or more of the one or more communication devices;

 directing the one or more of the one or more communication messages to the one or more of the one or more communication devices through employment of one or more of the one or more identifiers and one or more message screening preferences of one or
10 more users of the one or more communication devices.

20. The method of claim 15, wherein one or more of the one or more communication messages comprise one or more video messages, wherein the step of sending the one or more messages or calls to the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components for direction to the one or more communication
15 devices comprises the steps of:

 communicating the one or more video messages through the internet to the one or more internet protocol address of the one or more router components.

21. An article, wherein one or more identifiers comprise any one or more of a phone number, an email address, an instant message name, and a user name of user associated with a communication device, comprising:

one or more computer-readable signal-bearing media;

5 means in the one or more media for searching one or more databases with the one or more identifiers of one or more communication devices to make a determination of one or more internet protocol addresses of one or more router components; and

means in the one or more media for sending one or more messages or calls to the one or more internet protocol addresses of the one or more router components for
10 direction to the one or more communication devices.

* * * * *